

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 6-8, 13, 15-17, 19-22 and 24-26 are currently pending. Claims 1 and 15 are independent. In the Final Office Action, all of the pending claims were rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as allegedly unpatentable over Karpinski, "Mail Room Mainstay Tracks Packs," Internetweek, October 21, 1997 (hereinafter Karpinski) in view of WebMethods (a collection of related articles from PTO-892). Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are allowable for at least the following reasons.

Independent Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a tracking system that includes a tracking coordinator for receipt of the tracking request and for generating tracking objects and sending the tracking objects to the tracking website of the selected carrier, wherein the tracking coordinator limits the generation of tracking objects for a particular carrier so as to be generated no more frequently than a predetermined number of tracking objects per predetermined time interval.

Independent Claim 15 is a corresponding method claim.

Applicants submit that neither Karpinski nor the Webpages, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest the features of Claims 1 and 15. Specifically, page 29 of the WebMethods document discloses logical operations over the returned data. For example, a timeout or "server busy" message might require a retry. Applicants submit that a retry feature, as described in the WebMethods, does not disclose or suggest a tracking coordinator that limits the generation of tracking objects for a particular carrier so as to be generated no more frequently than a predetermined number of tracking objects per predetermined time interval, as recited in Claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that Claim 1 is allowable.

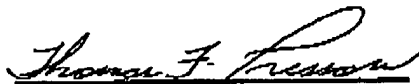
Applicants submit that Claim 15 is allowable for the same reason.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claim discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the claims of this application are now in a condition for allowance and favorable action thereon is requested.

Applicants' attorney may be reached at (203) 924-3845. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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